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MS ISSUE FEE
PATENT
1163-0268P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shinichhi KUDORA et al. Conf.: 9554
Appl. No.: 09/545,172 Group: 2613
Filed: April 6, 2000 Examiner: Wong, A.
For: IMAGE ENCODING DEVICE AND IMAGE DECODING DEVICE

LETTER REQUESTING INITIALED PTO 1449 FORM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 25 2005

Sir:

In reviewing the above-captioned application file upon allowance, the undersigned has noted that acknowledgement was not received for the PTO 1449 form filed with the Information Disclosure Statement on May 10, 2002.

Accordingly, a copy of the unacknowledged PTO 1449 form is attached hereto. The Examiner is respectfully requested to return the initialed form to the undersigned as soon as possible.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

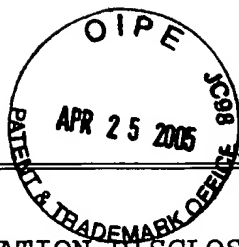
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

MICHAEL K. MUTTER, #29,680

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

MKM/djm



Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.
1163-0268PAPPLICATION NO.
09/545,172APPLICANT
KURODA et al.FILING DATE
April 6, 2000GROUP
2613**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | 9-116897 | 1997-05-02 | JP | | | ABS | |
| | 8-294127 | 1996-11-05 | JP | | | ABS | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.